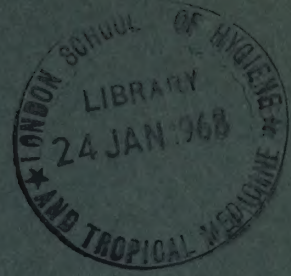


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BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1958

—ooOoo—

Public Health Department,
West Hill House,
West Hill,
EPSOM,
Surrey.

Telephone No.
Epsom 3941/42

June, 1959.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell

(2)

Mr. Mayor, Laddes and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an annual report for the year 1958. The request for this report is made in Ministry of Health Circular 22/58 in which there is reference to Articles 6 (3) and 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935 and 1951 and Article 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers Order 1926. The report is in a form which meets the requirements of the Ministry as summarised in the letter.

Despite the lack of sunshine in the summer the year was a healthy one, if figures and records are regarded as reliable indicators. There was a decrease in the number of deaths at all ages, including infants, and the incidence of most of the infectious diseases, including poliomyelitis, was lower than in the preceding year. The birth-rate was the highest since 1950.

The sanitary and environmental conditions of the district are satisfactory with two exceptions which require mention. First the increasing number of people who visit Epsom Downs at other times than race meetings, creates a problem of sanitation towards the solution of which little progress has yet been made, for there are no public conveniences, no hand washing facilities and no public drinking water supply. Second, the condition of the area off Cox Lane at West Ewell where the primitive methods of keeping animals and the haphazard development of caravan sites have created slum conditions.

Once again I wish to bring to the notice of the Council the conscientious work of all members of the Public Health Department, and the assistance which I have received from the Chief Officers of the departments of the Council's administration.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Council and particularly the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the continued support and encouragement during the year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE.

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1958-59

Chairman	Alderman	J. A. Larby, J.P.
Vice-Chairman	"	Mrs. A. Winter
	Councillor	H. Cockburn
	"	G. H. Excell
	"	W. J. D. Godsell
	"	P. A. L. Hodges, A.M.I.I.A.
	"	T. G. Holland
	"	H. N. Howorth, T.D., A.C.A.
	"	S. L. Skilton
	"	I. F. Tugwell
	"	Mrs. L. M. Woodcock
<u>Ex Officio Members</u>		The Mayor and Deputy Mayor

HOUSING (SELECTION OF TENANTS) SUB-COMMITTEE

Representatives on the Sub-Committee set up by the Housing Committee:- The Chairman (or in his absence Councillor Cockburn and Councillor T. G. Holland).

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillors H. Cockburn, T. G. Holland and Mrs. L. M. Woodcock

ABOLITION OF CESSPOOLS SUB-COMMITTEE

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman and Councillor P. A. L. Hodges, A.M.I.I.A., and three representatives each of the Sewerage and Sewage Disposal, Water and Finance Committees.

Representatives of the Council on

(1) CENTRAL DIVISIONAL (HEALTH) SUB-COMMITTEE

Aldermen Mrs. A. Winter, O. H. N. Langston, J. A. Larby and F. Tomlin

(2) EPSOM AND LEATHERHEAD TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Public Health Committee.

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL
STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

- o Cyrus Ive, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.S., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

- ✕ Wm. H. C. Hagger M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

- x/ L. H. Grace A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

- ✕ W. O. Alder M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
✕ K. H. Halstead A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Trained Nurse engaged (part-time) on Public Health Duties

Mrs. Olive Roberts, S.R.N.

Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff:

Senior Clerk:	Position vacant
Clerk/Secretary:	Miss E. E. Nolan
Clerk/Telephonist:	Mrs. M. E. Joseph
Junior Clerk:	Miss G. F. Skidmore

Chief Public Health Inspector's Clerical Staff
and Outdoor Staff:

Chief Clerk:	H.J.T. Woolford, A.R.S.H.
Senior Shorthand-typist & Clerk:	Miss D. D. Wood
Shorthand-typist and Clerk:	Mrs. J. Bulezuik

General Assistants and Mortuary Attendants:	W. Goodenough J. I. Stephens
--	---------------------------------

Rodent Operatives:	A. Bawden E. Merratt (Resigned 30.4.58)
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- o The Medical Officer of Health and his clerical staff act in a similar capacity for the Dorking and Leatherhead Urban Districts and for the Dorking and Horley Rural District.

- ✕ Holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

- x Holds Sanitary Science Certificate of the Royal Society of Health

—oooOooo—

REPORT ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

STATE OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. J. H. Grace, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Assistant Public Health Inspectors

Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.
Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Trained Nurses employed (part-time) as Public Health Visitors

Mrs. Olive Roberts, B.N.M.

Medical Officer of Health's Clinical Staff

Dr. J. H. Grace, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.
Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.
Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.
Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.
Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.
Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

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Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Mr. H. C. Thompson, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.P., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

THE YEAR 1958

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1. Area (Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	8,427
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	68,055
Population (Estimated mid-year 1958)	...	...	...	...	...	67,590
Density (Persons per acre)	...	...	...	...	...	8.0
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1958	...	...	...	...	...	19,215
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1959	...	...	...	...	...	£1,252,718
Product of penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£5,073

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births

	Total	Male	Female
Total	744	381	263
Legitimate	721	372	349
Illegitimate	23	9	14

Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	11.0
Standardised Birth rate " "	13.2

Still Births

Total	13	7	6
Legitimate	13	7	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still rate per 1,000 live & still births	17.2
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Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

Total	16	9	7
Legitimate	15	9	6
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births total	21.5
" " " " " " " legitimate	20.8
" " " " " " " illegitimate	43.5
Neo Natal " " " " " " "	16.1

Illegitimate live births percent of total live births	3.1
---	-----

Maternal Mortality

Maternal deaths (including abortion)	-
--------------------------------------	---

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live & still births	-
---	---

Deaths

Total	1,067	487	580
Private Residents	657		
Patients in Mental Hospitals	410		

Table I includes birth and death rates, with a comparison with the figures for 1957, and Table II gives a comparison of birth, death and infant mortality rates for the district since 1931, with the figures for England and Wales for the same period.

BIRTHS

Live births numbered 744 and this total was the highest since 1950, giving a crude death-rate of 11.0 per 1,000 population. A comparability factor (1.20) has been supplied by the Registrar General, the use of which allows for the variation in age and sex distribution of the population in different areas, and permits comparison of the local rate with those of other districts. It also takes into account the presence of residential institutions in the locality concerned. After application of the factor a standardised birth-rate of 13.2 is obtained. The annual birth-rate for England and Wales in 1958 was 16.4.

Of the 744 births 23 were illegitimate. The percentage of illegitimate to legitimate births was 3.1, the corresponding figure for the County of Surrey being 3.9.

DEATHS

Deaths assigned to the area numbered 1,067, representing a crude death-rate of 15.8 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. The total was made up of 487 males and 580 females, and included 410 deaths in the group of mental hospitals, which had a mid-year patient population of 7,273.

A comparability factor has been provided by the Registrar General which may be applied to the crude death-rate for use in comparing the local death-rate with the standardised rates of other areas or with the crude death-rate for England and Wales. Comparability factors are designed to allow for any local differences in the population structure in relation to age and sex from that of England and Wales as a whole. Since 1956 the factor has also been adjusted to take account of the presence of the large residential institutions which exist in this area.

The death rates for the district since 1931 are shown in Table II, in comparison with the figures for England and Wales.

The comparability factor for 1958 was 0.57 and when this was applied to the crude death-rate of 15.8 a standardised death-rate of 9.1 resulted, which was within the range of the figures recorded prior to 1953.

Causes of Death

The causes of deaths assigned are classified in Table III. Diseases of the heart and vascular system caused 580 deaths (8.72 per 1,000), and of the respiratory system 123 deaths (1.81 per 1,000). Malignant disease was responsible for 155 deaths (2.29 per 1,000) of which in 30 males and 5 females the primary site of the growth was in the lungs or bronchus.

Accidental Deaths

1. Road Accidents

Five residents were killed in road accidents involving motor vehicles, two of the accidents taking place on roads within the Borough. In 1957 there were four deaths due to this cause. Brief details are as follows:-

- (a) A man aged 65 years, riding a motor cycle, was in collision with a motor cycle combination. He died in a local hospital from injuries to the brain.
- (b) A man aged 32 years riding a motor cycle was in collision with a motor car. He died in a local hospital from multiple injuries.

Accidental Deaths (cont.)

1. Road Accidents

(c) A man aged 46 years driving a car was in collision with a motor van. He died as a result of a fractured skull. The scene of the accident was outside Surrey.

(d & e) The deceased were occupants of a car which was in collision with a roadside tree. The scene of the accident was in Surrey, but not in this district. In one case death was due to a fracture of the spine, and in the other to multiple injuries.

2. Other Accidents

Other accidents caused 11 deaths compared with 19 in 1957. The majority of these were due to complications following falls sustained by elderly persons. One elderly woman died as a result of scalds due to a burst hot water bottle.

Infant Mortality

Deaths of children under 1 year of age numbered 16, giving an infant mortality rate of 21.5 per 1,000 live births, compared with 22.5 for England and Wales. Twelve of the deaths occurred within 28 days of birth, the neonatal death-rate being 16.1 per 1,000 live births compared with 16.2 for England and Wales.

Three of the 4 deaths in children over 1 month of age were the result of congenital abnormalities inconsistent with prolonged life. The fourth death was caused by acute pneumonia.

Of the 12 deaths in children under 1 month, 7 resulted from congenital abnormalities and 5 from prematurity.

There was one death of an illegitimate child. The infant mortality rate for illegitimate children was 43.5 per 1,000 live births. In 1957 the rate was 55.5.

Maternal Mortality

There was no death attributable to maternal causes. The maternal mortality rate for England and Wales was 0.43 per 1,000 births (live and still).

POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of population was 67,590 representing an increase of 250 compared with last year. On this figure there has been a decrease of 465 since 1951 when the Census was made and the population was 68,055.

The number of patients in the mental hospitals was 7,273, this being 357 less than in the previous year.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory service is maintained by the Medical Research Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health. A local laboratory of the service is situated at West Hill House, West Hill, Epsom.

The staff of the laboratory examine and report on material submitted by medical practitioners and on bacteriological conditions of samples of milk, food and water taken by local authorities' Public Health Departments. The results of the examination of water and milk supplies are summarised in later sections of this report, and those relating to ice-cream are dealt with in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The public ambulance service is under the control of the Surrey County Council, who have given the following information regarding the use of the service in this area:-

The Borough is in the Kingston area of control, the main ambulance station being situated in Malden (Telephone No. Malden 1173). There is a sub-station in Langton Avenue, Ewell.

In accidents in the home or elsewhere or in sudden illness in streets or public places, any responsible person may call the ambulance to remove the patient (if by telephone dial 999). Normal maternity cases will be removed if the applicant can give evidence that a maternity bed has been booked. Maternity cases with serious complications, or where birth is imminent, will not normally be moved without the authority of a doctor or certified midwife who should travel with the patient in the ambulance. The removal of other cases of illness or accident will be arranged by the hospital concerned, or by the medical practitioner in charge of the patient. For private removals a written request, accompanied by a Doctor's certificate, should be made to the County Medical Officer for his consideration. Providing that these requirements are fulfilled no charge will be made to users.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

In these Acts powers are given to local authorities to seek Court Orders for the compulsory temporary removal to hospital or institution of persons in ill health or in a senile state who are in a state of neglect. No action was required during the year.

Since the Acts came into operation, three Orders for a compulsory removal have been asked for, the application having been successful in each case.

DOMICILIARY NURSING AND DOMESTIC HELP

Domiciliary nursing is carried out by the district nursing staff of the County Council whose address is The Nurses Home, 19 Alexandra Road, Epsom, (Telephone No. Epsom 1153).

PROVISION OF NURSING EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUS

The British Red Cross Society (Epsom, Ewell and Stoneleigh Division) maintain a Medical Loan Depot at Red Cross House, 117 East Street, Epsom (Telephone No. Epsom 3250). The hours of opening are:-

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10 a.m. - 12 noon.

The depot has a wide range of equipment necessary for nursing in the home.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This service is administered locally by the Divisional Medical Officer of the Surrey County Council. Details of the service can be obtained from the supervisor at Ashley House, Ashley Road, Epsom, (Telephone No. Epsom 9512).

CARE OF THE ELDERLY

Institutional accommodation for old people not requiring hospital treatment is provided by the County Council. Hospital accommodation is provided by the Epsom Group Hospital Management Committee.

Domiciliary help in several forms is available to old persons. The activities of the Epsom and Ewell Old Peoples Welfare Committee include the provision of chiropody services, the organisation of social clubs, visits of a "meals-on-wheels" service, "night/day attendance" service, a personal laundry service and help with holidays.

The Women's Voluntary Services and the British Red Cross Society are able to help with clothing, social visits and the provision of escorts. The British Red Cross Society can supply nursing equipment and invalid foods.

Home nursing and supervision of old peoples welfare is the responsibility of the County Council acting through its Divisional Medical and Welfare Officers.

CARE OF MOTHERS, YOUNG CHILDREN, ETC.

The provision of services relating to the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, immunisation and vaccination, and domestic help are the responsibility of the Surrey County Council as local health authority. Day-to-day administration is carried on by the Central Divisional Health Sub-Committee with offices at Ashley House, Ashley Road, Epsom. The Health Centres are situated at 44 Waterloo Road, Epsom and at Ewell Court House.

Some of the outlying parts of the Borough are served by centres situated in adjacent districts, and for the isolated areas of Langley Vale and the Wells Estate clinics are held twice a month at conveniently situated premises.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis and vaccination against smallpox can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or from County Council Clinics. Details of the numbers immunised are included in Section 6 of this report.

FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION'S CLINIC

A branch of the Family Planning Association functions in the Borough. It provides a weekly clinic at the Epsom District Hospital with the consent of the Hospital Management Committee and the Medical Superintendent. The medical staff is appointed by the Association and is assisted by voluntary workers. The work of the Association is concerned with the teaching of contraception to married persons, and also with the investigation of sub-fertility and other sex problems.

Information has been received from the Hon. Secretary (Mrs. E. M. Hawley, 44 Copse Edge Avenue, Epsom) of the local branch of the Association, that 1,661 visits were made to the clinic in the past year, including 452 first visits, and that postal enquiries totalled 1,551.

TREATMENT OF SCABIES, DELOUSING

The clinic for the treatment of people suffering from scabies has continued its work in the premises at the rear of "The Cedars", Church Street, Epsom. The work is carried out by a general trained State Registered Nurse, employed part-time, and has undoubtedly been effective in its results. The function of the clinic is essentially treatment, and patients are not accepted unless referred by a medical practitioner. Emphasis is laid on the importance of prophylactic treatment for close contacts.

Facilities of the clinic are available to the residents of Leatherhead Urban District, whose Council undertakes a proportionate share of the cost of the establishment. During the year 10 persons attended for treatment, all being residents of the Borough.

The clinic can also be used in assisting persons to rid themselves of infestation by head and body lice.

VENEREAL DISEASES

The Regional Hospital Board is the authority responsible for the administration of matters dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Diseases. Details of local clinics are set out on page 10.

LOCATION AND TIME-TABLE OF CLINICS

On the following page the location and time-table of clinics is set out in convenient form for reference.

LOCATION AND TIME-TABLE OF CLINICS

Ante-natal Clinics	Epsom District Hospital	Mons. & Thurs. 2 p.m.
	Ewell Court House	Fris. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Priory Crescent, North Cheam	Mons. & Fris. 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon
Child Welfare Clinics	44 Waterloo Road, Epsom	Mons. & Weds. 2-4 p.m.
	Ewell Court House	Mons. Weds. & Thurs. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Jubilee Inst. Malden Rd. Worcester Park	Mons & Thurs. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Priory Crescent, North Cheam	Mons. & Thurs. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Parochial Rooms, Malden Rd., Cheam	Weds. 2 - 4 p.m.
	St. Stephens Church Hall, Rosebery Rd. Epsom Downs	1st, 3rd & 5th Weds. in month at 2 p.m.
	Wells Estate	1st, 3rd & 5th Tues. in month at 2 p.m.
General School Medical Minor Ailments Clinic	44 Waterloo Road, Epsom	Weds. 10.a.m.
Family Planning Association Clinic	Epsom District Hospital	Fris. 7 p.m.
Scabies Treatment Clinic	"The Cedars", Church St., Epsom	By Appointment
Chest Clinic	Epsom District Hospital	Tues. & Thurs. 2 p.m. Every 3rd Thurs. in mth. at 5.30 p.m.
Venereal Diseases	St. Helier Hospital	Males: Mons. 4-6.30 p.m. Females: Weds. 5-7 p.m.
	(And at the Out-Patient Dept. of many London Hospitals)	
Immunisation and Vaccination	44 Waterloo Road, Epsom	Every Fri. 11 a.m.
	Ewell Court House	Every Mon. 11 a.m.

WATER

Epsom is supplied by water from the Council's undertaking. The water is obtained from deep wells, boring and adits in the chalk situated in East Street, and yields a quantity sufficient for all the needs of the community. It is chlorinated before distribution. No softening process is carried out though it is the Council's intention to install a softening process when it is able to obtain the sanction of the Ministry of Health to the financial expenditure. Frequent bacteriological samples and chemical samples of raw and treated water are taken under the direction of the Borough Water Engineer. The results show that the water pumped to supply has been of good quality.

Ewell and the greater part of Cuddington are supplied by the Sutton District Water Company with a softened water derived from wells situated at Cheam, Sutton and Woodmansterne. Frequent samples have been taken at domestic premises in this area and results found to be satisfactory. Copies of analytical results have also been received at regular intervals of samples taken by the Company's officials.

The West Park and Manor Hospitals possess deep wells from which considerable volumes of water are pumped, chlorinated and distributed within the institutions. The bulk of the water used in both hospitals is, however, taken from the Corporation's mains. The bacteriological quality of the water taken from the wells is under the observation of the Council's Public Health Department.

A number of houses in the northern part of the area are supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board, and two cottages on the south-west outskirts of Epsom by the East Surrey Water Company.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGESewage Disposal

The sewage treatment works administered by the Hogsnill Valley Joint Sewerage Board, situated in the Borough of Malden and Coombe, now receive and treat all sewage from the Borough.

Cesspools

There are 88 cesspools in the Borough and at 14 premises pail or chemical closets are in use.

With a view to encouraging owners of premises with cesspool drainage to connect to the public sewer, where practicable, the Council has agreed to a recommendation of the Joint Cesspool Sub-Committee, to undertake the work of re-drainage and connection to the sewer, the cost to be met by the owner by repayment over an agreed period of years.

In cases requiring conversion from earth or pail closets and connection to sewer, the Council has agreed to the cost being borne equally by the owner and the Corporation, as provided in Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

During the year 3 cesspools were abolished and 1 additional cesspool found.

EPSOM DOWNS

Sanitary Conditions on Epsom Downs

Conditions on the Downs resulting from the crowds attending race meetings continue to cause concern to the Public Health Department. The Council's mobile conveniences were patronised by about the same number of racegoers as in previous years. The remainder of the racegoers on the free portions of the course were obliged to use temporary conveniences erected by private enterprise, with ultimate disposal of excreta into the ground. The numerous caravan dwellers associated with these meetings who settle on the course for period of 1 to 2 weeks use similar methods for the disposal of soil and waste water.

Apart from race meetings, the increasing number of visitors to the Downs, particularly in the vicinity of the numerous car parks, has aggravated the position caused by the absence of public conveniences.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Collection of Refuse - The arrangements for public cleansing are carried out under the supervision of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

Trade refuse is removed by the Council under an arrangement whereby one bin of trade refuse is removed for every £40 of the rateable value of the premises, a standard charge being made for any additional quantity removed.

(b) Disposal of Refuse - Disposal of household and trade refuse continues to be partly by incineration at the Epsom Sewage Works, and partly by controlled tipping at the disused brick works in East Street.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Streams and surface water courses were inspected during the year and have been generally maintained in a satisfactory condition. The work carried out by the County Council in recent years on the Hogsmill has been beneficial in its results. The benefits resulting from the completion of the Hogsmill Valley Joint Sewerage Scheme were referred to in the report for 1957.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

The Municipal Baths are situated in East Street, Epsom, and comprise a covered swimming bath (convertible into a hall), turkish, foam and slipper baths and cafe. Swimming bath water is subjected to continuous filtration and chlorination. Frequent bacteriological examinations are made to test the efficiency of the purification process.

There is one privately owned swimming pool in the Borough open to the general public. The pool is equipped with plant for continuous filtration and chlorination, and the water is subjected to periodical bacteriological examination.

The other bathing pools in the Borough are provided in connection with schools and clubs and are not open to the general public.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, the action and the result of action taken in regard to these, will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

Details of the work of the Public Health Department in connection with housing will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector. This is mainly concerned with the state of existing houses and the steps taken, where necessary, to bring them into a state of good repair, or in a few cases, to effect their demolition or closure.

With regard to the erection of new houses, I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the following information regarding the number of new houses erected during the year.

Erected by local authority	22
Erected by private enterprise	207
Converted properties:	
(a) by local authority	Nil
(b) by private enterprise	4

RE-HOUSING OF TUBERCULOUS PERSONS

Six houses were allocated to housing applicants in whose families there were tuberculous members. Since the war priority has been given to 101 cases under this heading, a total which reflects the importance the Council attaches to good housing conditions in the treatment and prevention of this infectious disease. Priority was also given to a limited number of applicants whose households contained a member suffering from illness of non-infectious character, but rendering rehousing necessary.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The report of the Chief Public Health Inspector gives details of the work done in connection with supervision in the manufacture, storage, sale and distribution of food.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASENOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table I includes death rates and incidence rates of the notifiable infectious diseases, with the figures for the previous year for comparison. Table IV shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1958.

The presence of several large hospitals in the district influences the incidence of infectious diseases. For example, the majority of cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified from the Epsom District Hospital, though many of the patients were resident in the Borough only for the time of their confinement. A column has therefore been included in Table IV to show the number of notifications relating to patients in hospitals.

Table V shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases classified according to age and sex.

SMALLPOX

No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

Vaccination against Smallpox

During the year 827 notifications were received from medical practitioners of vaccinations performed by them against smallpox. Of these 600 related to primary vaccinations and 227 to re-vaccination.

Treatment of children under 1 year of age accounted for 519 of the primary vaccinations, equivalent to 69.8% of the births registered in the Borough in 1958. The comparative figure for 1957 was 62.1%

SCARLET FEVER

Twenty-five cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, compared with 24 for the previous year. The incidence rate per 1,000 population was 0.37. Four cases were admitted to hospital for treatment.

The type of infection was mild in character, this having been a characteristic for a number of years. Taking this fact into account, and also the great effectiveness of treatment now available in the drugs of the sulpha group and in the various antibiotics a change of policy regarding school children contacts of scarlet fever has been made. So far as the County Council schools are concerned, no exclusion of contacts of scarlet fever is now required so long as they remain in good health. An exception is made, however, of contacts engaged in the preparation or service of school meals, who would be excluded until their freedom from infection had been ascertained.

DIPHTHERIA

No case of diphtheria occurred during the year. Figures relating to the incidence of diphtheria since 1934 have been summarised in Table VI.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The aim is for every child to receive a primary treatment in its first year of life with reinforcing treatments every 3 to 4 years up to the end of school life. It is not claimed even with such treatment that absolute immunisation will be attained by every child, but there is clear evidence that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of an immunised child, and that the risk of death is nearly thirty times as great.

Diphtheria is only one of the diseases which can be controlled by immunisation. Others include smallpox, against which vaccination is desirable in the first four months of life, whooping cough, which is often most severe and dangerous in young infants and therefore treatment should be concluded as soon as possible after six months of age, poliomyelitis, which is at its commonest, if not at its severest, in the early years, and therefore must be included in the immunisation programme at this stage. Finally diphtheria and tetanus, although rare diseases now, require consideration before the end of the first year.

Fortunately it is sometimes possible to combine the treatment against diphtheria and tetanus in one series of injections, and sometimes to add whooping cough. If this can be arranged with the doctor giving the treatment it certainly eases the burden on the mother and is not so trying to the patience of the child. Unfortunately, however, these combined prophylactics cannot always be used. For instance occurrences of cases of poliomyelitis in the district prevent their use.

The programme of immunisation for each child requires a consultation between the parents and the family or clinic doctor.

Treatment can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or from clinics arranged by the local health authority, these being held at regular intervals at all Infant Welfare Centres serving the district, of which details are set out on page 10. These arrangements are intended primarily for infants and others under school age. Clinics in schools are arranged as required by the Divisional Medical Officer for pupils requiring treatment.

Notifications were received that 541 children received primary treatments and that 935 received reinforcing doses. The following figures show how the facilities for treatment have been used.

	<u>Primary Treatment</u>	<u>Reinforcing Doses</u>
Treated at Clinics and Schools	349	829
Treated by General Practitioners	<u>192</u>	<u>106</u>
	541	935

At the end of the year it was estimated that 62.7% of children under the age of 15 years had been treated against diphtheria, and were still in an effective state of immunity. The comparable figure for 1957 was 65.8%.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

The incidence of poliomyelitis was small, only one case being notified and that of the mild non-paralytic type.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Vaccination against poliomyelitis must now take first place in the means of prevention of this disease. It is too early yet to know how effective the vaccine at present in use will be, and it will be a few years before a complete picture can be obtained of the efficiency and duration of its protective powers. In spite of this, and taking into consideration the malignant nature of the disease and the ineffectiveness of other methods of controlling it, everyone eligible to apply for treatment should do so at the earliest opportunity. The age limit has now been extended from 15 years to 25 years of age. Expectant mothers are given priority.

It is estimated that 8,760 children and 840 older persons resident in the Borough were vaccinated during the year. The number treated in 1957 was 1,900. The population under 15 years of age is approximately 12,000 and the age group 15-24 approximately 7,000.

MEASLES

Four hundred and thirty-one cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 1,028 for 1957. The case rate per 1,000 population was 6.37 against 15.26 last year.

TYPHOID FEVER

One case was notified, the patient being on the nursing staff of one of the mental hospitals. She had, however, taken up her duties only a few days before she became ill, and in the absence of evidence to the contrary it was assumed that she contracted the infection before arrival in this district.

PARATYPHOID FEVER

One case was notified. The patient was a young man on the staff of a firm of horticulturists. In the course of his work he was accustomed to handling bone meal and other fertilisers containing bone meal. There being no other suspicious circumstances in the history of the case, the possibility of bone meal as a source of infection was considered in view of recent bacteriological investigations which have shown that many samples of this material contained organisms of the salmonella group. Samples of bone meal taken at his place of work gave negative results however, and no definite conclusion could be reached on the matter.

DYSENTERY

Sixteen cases were notified, 14 relating to private residents and 2 to patients under treatment in mental hospitals. Subsequent investigations proved that 2 cases were suffering from non-specific entero-colitis. In the remaining 14 cases the infecting organism was the sonne bacillus, which usually causes a relatively mild illness but the spread of which is difficult to prevent. Hence outbreaks involving schools and families are common and in the series under review multiple cases occurred on 4 occasions. Persons of all ages were involved, and 3 of the 7 adults affected contracted their infections abroad, 2 in the Far East and 1 in Spain.

FOOD POISONING

Twenty-six cases of food poisoning were notified during the year giving an incidence rate of 0.38 per 1,000 population. In 1957 there were 73 notifications with an incidence rate of 1.08.

Eighteen of these cases occurred in an outbreak in a residential school. The resultant illness was mild in character and the organisms involved belonged to the *Bacillus Welchii* group. In 4 cases notified as food poisoning the illness was due to infection by *salmonella typhi-murium*. There was no association between the patients and it was impossible to trace the source of infection in any. This is a common experience in investigating food poisoning due to this organism, which is being found in increasing frequency in cases of enteric-colitis. It has been isolated from such common articles of food as cream filled pastries, eggs and sausages. It has also been found in bone meal, which is widely used in animal feeding and agriculture. There are usually no remains of these by the time the investigation of the illness commences. In 4 cases notified as food poisoning, efforts failed to isolate the causative organism from the patients' excreta.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Thirty cases were notified, giving an incidence rate of 39.6 per 1,000 live and still births compared with 51 cases and a rate of 77.5 in 1957. Twenty-nine notifications were received from the maternity unit of the Epsom District Hospital, 19 of them relating to patients who were admitted for their confinement from addresses outside the Borough.

WHOOPING COUGH

Twenty-one cases of whooping cough were notified during the year, the incidence rate being 0.31 per 1,000 population compared with 0.48 in 1957. No deaths were registered from the disease.

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Notifications were received from medical practitioners and clinics that 438 children had received a primary course and 57 children had received reinforcing doses.

TETANUS

No case of tetanus was reported.

Immunisation against Tetanus

Notifications were received that 221 children were given active immunisation against tetanus. In the case of 199 children the treatment was given in combination with other prophylactics: in the remainder it was given alone.

TUBERCULOSIS

Registration of Tubercular Persons

During the year the names of 93 persons were added to the tuberculosis register, and 99 were removed. Details of these alterations are as follows:-

ADDITIONS TO REGISTER

Primary notifications relating to private residents already residing in the district	27
Transfer of private residents notified in other areas, now residing in the district	31
Notifications of persons residing in institutions	
Already resident	18
On admission	4
Posthumous notifications	
In private households	3
In institutions	3
Restored	
Private residents	3
In institutions	4
	93

REMOVALS FROM REGISTER

By removals to other districts	
(a) Private residents	36
(b) Patients in institutions	14
By recovery	
(a) Private residents	35
(b) Patients in institutions	1
By death +	
(a) Private residents	5
(b) Patients in institutions	8
	99

+ In 5 cases the cause of death was not attributed to tuberculosis.

At the end of the year the number of names on the register was as follows:-

	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
In private residence	215	156	13	12
Patients in Mental Hospitals	72	18	2	2
	287	174	15	14

There were also 42 patients in mental hospitals whose names were on the tuberculosis registers of the districts in which they were domiciled before admission.

Notification of Tuberculosis

Forty-five notifications were received from medical practitioners of persons certified, so far as is known for the first time, to be suffering from tuberculosis. In Table VII these cases are classified by sex and age and subdivided into pulmonary and non-pulmonary types of disease. The table also shows whether the patient was a private resident or a mental hospital patient. In Table IX the number of notifications received in previous years is given for purposes of comparison.

Notification of Tuberculosis (cont.)

The number of new cases of tuberculosis notified in private residences for the period 1954-1958 averaged 30 per year compared with the pre-war figure of 44 per year. This is an appreciable decline and is remarkable when it is remembered that greatly improved methods of diagnosis are now available and that far larger numbers are being examined each year.

Deaths from Tuberculosis

Seven deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and one from non-pulmonary tuberculosis occurred during the year, giving death rates of 0.10 and 0.02 respectively. These rates are considerably influenced by the large hospital population for the reasons given in Section I of this report, and may be considered satisfactory when comparing them with the corresponding death rates for England and Wales which were 0.09 and 0.01 per 1,000 population. Of the deaths 2 were private residents and 6 were patients in mental hospitals. An analysis of deaths by age, sex and form of disease is contained in Table VIII, which is further subdivided to show whether the death was of a private resident or of a patient in one of the mental hospitals.

The fall in recent years in the number of deaths continued so far as the private residents are concerned, and this feature of the statistics can be regarded with satisfaction and as evidence of the increasing effectiveness of the preventive and remedial precautions taken against the disease. The figures for the mental hospital population are subject to fluctuation for reasons which do not operate in the case of residents and can be discounted in a review such as this which covers a comparatively short period of time.

EPSOM, LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT CARE COMMITTEE

The Epsom, Leatherhead and District Tuberculosis Care Committee has continued its work with energy during the year under the Chairmanship of Alderman Mrs. A. Winter. The Secretary of the Committee is Miss M. Wright, who is also the Surrey County Council's Care Almoner in the area, and the Treasurer is Mr. T. L. Flanagan, of the Epsom Branch of the Westminster Bank. Members of the Committee include representatives of the Borough Council, the Leatherhead Urban District Council, Associations and Societies interested in social welfare, and officers engaged in work connected with health, welfare and relief. Thus the Committee is in a good position to help solve the special problems of the tuberculous person and the household to which he belongs, and much valuable work has been done.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

This treatment is available at Chest Clinics to contacts in the family of tuberculous persons, if preliminary testing shows that they have not already been infected. It has also been offered to children between 13 and 14 years attending maintained schools, and those private schools which have co-operated in the scheme of treatment. The treatment in schools is carried out by the staff of the Divisional Medical Officer who has provided the following information relating to the work done in local schools in 1958.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis (cont.)

Communications were sent to the parents of 901 school children ascertained to be in the age group concerned, with the following results:-

No of children offered treatment	901
No. consenting	648 (equivalent to 71.9%)
No. of children vaccinated with B.C.G	592

Mass X-ray

A survey in the Borough was carried out during 1958 by the Mass Radiography Service. Sessions open to the general public were held at the Foresters' Hall, Epsom, St. John's Church Hall, Dell Lane, Stoneleigh and Ewell Court House. A total of 5,576 persons attended. The Medical Director of the Unit has given the following details of attendance.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Foresters' Hall, Epsom.	1,480	2,164	3,644
St. John's Church Hall, Stoneleigh.	194	376	570
Ewell Court House	539	823	1,362
TOTAL	2,213	3,363	5,576

TABLE I. COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES, AND INCIDENCE RATES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THE YEARS 1957 and 1958.

	1958	1957
<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>		
<u>BIRTHS</u>		
Live Birth Rate	11.0	9.5
<u>DEATHS</u>		
All Causes	15.9	16.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis	0.12	0.06
Influenza	0.15	0.22
Smallpox	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	0.03
Pneumonia	1.08	1.04
Measles	-	-
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)</u>		
Typhoid	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid	0.01	0.03
Meningococcal Infection	-	0.01
Scarlet Fever	0.37	0.36
Whooping Cough	0.31	0.48
Diphtheria	-	-
Erysipelas	0.07	0.07
Smallpox	-	-
Measles	6.37	15.26
Pneumonia	0.56	1.31
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	0.09
(Non-Paralytic)	0.01	0.06
Food Poisoning	0.38	1.08
Dysentery	0.24	0.67
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	0.61	0.59
(Non-Respiratory)	0.06	0.04
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u>		
Under 1 year of age	21.5	28.2
Under 4 weeks of age	16.1	23.5
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births</u>		
Still Births	17.2	28.9
Puerperal Pyrexia (Notification of)	39.6	77.5
Maternal Mortality	-	1.5

TABLE II

COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND MORTALITY RATES 1931 - 1958

(DECENNIAL AVERAGES 1931 - 1950)

Period	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population		Death Rate per 1,000 Population		Death Rate of children under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births	
	England and Wales	Epsom and Ewell	England and Wales	Epsom and Ewell	England and Wales	Epsom and Ewell Rate No. of infant deaths
1931 - 1940	14.9	12.6	12.3	7.3	58	41
1941 - 1950	16.9	14.2	12.3	9.4	43	28.4
1951	15.5	10.6	12.5	10.6	29.6	27.6
1952	15.3	9.9	11.3	9.0	27.6	20.9
1953	15.5	10.0	11.4	17.0	26.8	20.6
1954	15.2	9.7	11.3	17.0	25.4	13.8
1955	15.0	9.8	11.7	16.6	24.9	12.6
1956	15.6	10.1	11.7	18.1	23.7	20.5
1957	16.1	9.5	11.5	16.8	23.1	28.2
1958	16.4	11.0	11.7	15.8	22.5	21.5

+ Bracketed figures represent standardised rates.

++ All deaths of patients in mental hospitals included from 1953.

+++ From 1956 the standardised death rate allows for the high mortality in residential institutions, such as hospitals for mental illness.

TABLE III
CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	5	2	7
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	1	1
3. Syphilitic Disease	3	5	8
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	-	2
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	6	13
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	30	5	35
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	24	24
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	7	7
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	39	40	79
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	-	2
16. Diabetes	2	6	8
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	63	90	153
18. Coronary disease, angina	92	48	140
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	10	14
20. Other heart disease	70	142	212
21. Other circulatory disease	19	42	61
22. Influenza	6	4	10
23. Pneumonia	29	44	73
24. Bronchitis	26	16	42
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	6	2	8
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	7	-	7
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	4	7
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	5
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	8	2	10
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	46	72	118
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	1	5
34. All other accidents	6	5	11
35. Suicide	3	2	5
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-

TABLE IV

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Notifications of Patients in Private Houses or Nursing Homes	Notifications of Patients in Hospitals	Total
Typhoid Fever	1	-	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-	1
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	25	-	25
Whooping Cough	21	-	21
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Erysipelae	5	-	5
Smallpox	-	-	-
Measles	431	-	431
Pneumonia	38	-	38
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic	1	-	1
Food Poisoning	25	1	26
Dysentery	14	2	16
Malaria (contracted abroad)	-	-	-
(indigenous)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	23	18	41
Non-Respiratory	4	-	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	30	30

TABLE V

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES BY AGE AND SEX

(For Tuberculosis see Table VII)

	Under 1 year		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 14		15 - 24		25 - 44		45 - 64		65 years & over		All ages		Total all ages both sexes
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	1	13	3	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	25
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	1	2	3	5	4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	21
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelae	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	3	-	5
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	2	2	30	25	56	51	126	128	8	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	207	-	431
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	2	2	1	1	-	6	5	-	-	18	20	38
Polio-myelitis, Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-myelitis, Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	19	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	4	-	26
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	30	-	30
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	1	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	10	-	16
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

TABLE VI

INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

Year	Number of cases notified in the period 1934-1958	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population
1934 - 1938	99	0.40	0.016
1939 - 1943	49	0.16	0.004
1944 - 1948	30	0.09	0.004
1949 - 1953	1	-	-
1954	8	0.12	-
1955	-	-	-
1956	-	-	-
1957	-	-	-
1958	-	-	-

TABLE VII

NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS BY AGE AND SEX

Year	Private Residents		Mental Hospital Patients		Total	
	Pulmonary M F	Non-Pulmonary M F	Pulmonary M F	Non-Pulmonary M F	M	F
Under 1 year						
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	1	-	-	-	1	-
20 - 24	1	-	-	-	1	-
25 - 34	1	-	-	-	1	-
35 - 44	2	2	1	-	5	2
45 - 54	-	4	2	-	3	5
55 - 64	2	2	4	-	6	2
65 years & over	1	-	4	-	5	2
TOTAL	10	13	15	3	28	17

TABLE VIII

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS BY AGE AND SEX

<u>Year</u>	<u>Private Residents</u>				<u>Mental Hospital Patients</u>				<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		M	F
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 years & over	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	2
TOTAL	-	1	-	1	5	1	-	-	5	3

TABLE IX

TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY RATES 1934-1958
(QUINQUENNIAL AVERAGES 1934-1953)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Notifications</u>		<u>Notification Rate per 1,000 Population</u>	<u>Deaths</u>		<u>Death Rate per 1,000 Population</u>
1934-1938	44		0.78	18		0.35
1939-1943	67		1.11	33		0.52
1944-1948	75		1.15	26		0.36
1949-1953 +	66		0.96	19		0.28

+ From 1953 figures include notifications and deaths of patients in Mental Hospitals.

Public Health Department,
West Hill House,
West Hill,
EPSOM,
Surrey.

June, 1959.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my twenty-second Annual Report which relates to the work of the Public Health Inspectors for the year ended 31st December, 1958, and is compiled in accordance with requirements of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

A total number of 5,734 inspections and visits were made during the year and over 800 complaints investigated. In the Housing Section of the report it will be seen that steady progress has been made in the Council's five year Slum Clearance programme and a number of houses have been rendered fit by informal action. The initial work under the Food Hygiene Regulations has been followed up and the results achieved are encouraging. Many changes are taking place in the retailing of food and the housewife is becoming accustomed to Supermarkets and Self-Service Stores. Whatever our views may be on this form of trading, it must be admitted that it has raised the standard of food hygiene in the packaging, wrapping and display of food. There are also signs of more care in the preparation and handling of food and an increasing number of traders who now recognise that food hygiene pays.

The general improvement in the standard of living and benefits provided by scientific progress are not always fully appreciated and many of the privileges and amenities in modern life are taken for granted. To some people, matters concerning public health seem relatively unimportant and while they themselves live in a happy environment and enjoy good health, show no interest in the subject, but it takes very little in the way of ill-health or inconvenience to remind them that they are very dependent on others for their well being. A choked drain or a burst water pipe, a delay in the collection of household refuse or the sight of a rat in the garden, gives rise to their immediate complaint to the local authority with a demand for prompt attention. A pain or feeling of sickness after a meal in a cafe, the sight of a foreign object (possibly quite harmless) in foodstuff purchased at a local shop or a metal disc in a bottle of milk, will be treated with great consternation and reported to the Public Health Department with a request for legal proceedings against the trader. While in no way wishing to discourage reports of this nature, and I may say they are always investigated, particularly complaints concerning food, I quote these examples to illustrate the attitude of some people who have no interest in public health matters until they are affected personally.

Public Health concerns each one of us, it is part of our daily lives and a responsibility to be shared by every member of the community. Control measures are all very well, but much can be done to preserve and safeguard the health of the public by example to others in matters of cleanliness and personal habits. The importance of health education is fully recognised and where is there a more suitable place for it to commence than in the home. The training of children in personal cleanliness, care in the preparation and handling of food, and general hygiene in the home can be a great influence on their way of living in the future.

While accusing some people of a lack of interest in public health matters, the same cannot be said of many of the 15,000 visitors who attended the Civic Exhibition held in September during the Borough's 21st Anniversary of Incorporation Celebrations. Considerable interest was shown in the exhibits on the Public Health stand and the staff received many questions on public health problems, particularly from children, which proved most gratifying.

The statistical tables and comments in my report give some indication of the amount and variety of work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors and other members of my staff, all of whom have given loyal and efficient service throughout the year.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Council and in particular the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support and to record my gratitude to Dr. G. Ive, the Medical Officer of Health, for his advice and kindly consideration at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Wm. H. G. Hagger.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Summary of Inspections and Visits.

Dwelling-houses	-	Under P. H. Act	206
"	"	" Housing Acts	11
"	"	" Reinspections	522
Other Premises	-	Under P. H. Act	69
"	"	Reinspections	153
Complaints investigated			350
Drainage	-	Inspections	1,092
"		Water Tests	200
"		Smoke Tests	16
"		Other Tests	5
"		Cesspools inspected	153
Factories	-	With Power	66
"		Without Power	13
"		Outworkers	20
Food	-	Inspection of Premises	852
"		Slaughterhouses - Meat Inspections	106
"		Visits re Unsound Food	180
Heating Appliances and Fireguards Act			2
Infectious Disease	-	Enquiries and Visits	230
Insect Pests			129
Keeping of Animals or Poultry			5
Offices	-	Inspections	3
Pet Animals Act, Licences, etc.			3
Public Conveniences			25
Rat or Mice Infestation			83
Rivers and Streams			23
Schools	-	Sanitary Accommodation, Disinfestation, etc.	19
Shops Act, 1950 (Hours)			75
" " " (Welfare)			20
Smoke Observation or Air Pollution			96
Stables and Piggeries			62
Swimming Pools			12
Tents, Vans and Sheds			38
Theatres, Cinemas, Halls, etc.			2
Vacant Land, Dumps, etc.			44
Verminous premises or Articles			1
Visits, Miscellaneous (not included above)			848
			5,734

SAMPLING

Samples under Food and Drugs Act	74
Ice-cream Samples	18
Milk Samples (bacteriological)	109
Water Samples from:-	
Main Supplies (domestic)	35
Mental Hospitals - private wells (untreated)	100
" " " (treated)	20
Swimming Baths and Pools	14

COMPLAINTS

The following is a summary of the complaints received during the year:-

Insanitary condition of premises	53
Flooding	19
Choked or defective drains	134

Complaints (cont.)

	Forward	206
Offensive accumulations		10
Rat or Mice infestation		457
Nuisance from flies or other insect pests		28
Vermin		2
Defective dustbins		2
Offensive smells		29
Unsound Food		34
Factory and Shops Acts		3
Overcrowding		2
Smoke		8
Miscellaneous		<u>24</u>
		805

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS

Number of premises where nuisances or defects found	90
Number of nuisances or defects found	323

NOTICES

Number of Notices served under the following Acts:-

Public Health Act, 1936	(Statutory)	7
" " " "	(Informal)	75
Housing Act, 1957	(Statutory)	3
" " " "	(Informal)	-
Factories Act, 1937	(Informal)	2
Shops Act, 1950	(Informal)	2
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	(Informal)	<u>29</u>
		118

Number of Notices outstanding at end of year 13

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES ABATED, DEFECTS REMEDIED AND
OTHER MATTERS ATTENDED TO

DWELLING-HOUSES AND OTHER PREMISES:

Roofs repaired	31
Eaves gutters and downpipes repaired	22
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired	4
Repointing or rendering of brickwork	6
Other work carried out to remedy dampness	13
Choked drains cleared	139
Drains repaired or relaid	65
Inspection Chambers built or repaired	54
New W.C's. installed	88
W.C's. renewed or repaired	14
W.C. flushing cisterns renewed or repaired	8
New Baths installed	28
Soil Vent Pipes or F.A.I's. renewed or repaired	19
New Gullies provided	66
Sink Gully surrounds repaired	2
New sinks or wash-basins provided or renewed	114
Waste pipes provided or renewed	2
Water Service Pipes renewed or repaired	2
Cesspools emptied or repaired	65
Cesspools new	1
Cesspools abolished	3

Dwelling-houses and Other Premises (cont.)

Existing house drains connected to Public Sewer	3
New Dustbins provided	8
Yard Paving provided or repaired	2
Rooms cleansed and redecorated	15
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	40
Floors repaired or renewed	9
Fireplaces or ranges repaired or renewed	6
Staircases repaired or renewed	2
Doors repaired or renewed	9
Window frames repaired or renewed	30
Sashcords provided or renewed	1
Additional lighting or ventilation provided	2
Food Stores provided, ventilated or cleansed	3
Rooms disinfected after Tuberculosis	4
Disinfection of rooms or articles on request	4
Rooms, etc., sprayed for flies or other insect pests	20
Nuisances from animals or poultry abated	2
Offensive accumulations removed	7
Other nuisances abated or defects remedied	27

HOUSING

Housing Act, 1957

I. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected under the Public Health or Housing Acts	217
	(b)	Number of inspections or re-inspections	522
2.		Number of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	64

II. Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit:-

(a)	after Informal Notice	45
(b)	after service of Formal Notice	6
(c)	Number of Notices outstanding at end of year	13

III. Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1957.

Number of dwelling-houses found unfit for human habitation and represented under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act, 1957	1
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
Number of dwelling-houses demolished as a result of formal action	8

Housing (cont.)

Housing Repairs

Sixty-four Informal Notices relating to housing defects were served on owners of houses capable of repair and at the end of the year fifty-one of these Notices had been complied with.

Slum Clearance Programme

Under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, every local authority was required within one year after the commencement of the Act, to submit to the Minister proposals for dealing with houses which appear to be unfit for human habitation and to prepare a programme of action to be taken within the next five years.

A preliminary survey of the Borough was carried out and 115 houses which appeared to be unfit were completely inspected. Of these, 25 were found capable of repair, 9 were likely to be demolished by private development, leaving 81 to be dealt with in Clearance Areas or as Individual Unfit Houses. This information was reported to a Joint (Slum Clearance) Sub-Committee appointed to consider the Council's proposals for dealing with unfit houses and at a Meeting on the 1st September, 1955, the Public Health Committee adopted a recommendation of the Joint Sub-Committee, that subject to the necessary land being made available for re-housing purposes, the Corporation would deal with half the Slum Clearance programme - involving 40 houses - within the next five years, leaving the remainder to be dealt with when the development of the major portion of the Sewage Farm (now disused) is undertaken, within probably ten years' time.

The following is a summary of the action taken and present position under the five year programme:-

Number of unfit dwelling-houses included in the original list approved by the Joint (Slum Clearance) Sub-Committee, where there was a possibility of having to re-house the families		81
Number of dwelling-houses which have since been found unfit and dealt with as a matter of urgency		<u>13</u>
		94
<u>Action taken to date (31.12.58)</u>		
Number of dwelling-houses demolished as a result of official or informal action	14	
Demolition Orders made - occupants awaiting re-housing	2	
Closing Orders made - premises now vacant	11	
Number of dwelling-houses in two Clearance Areas declared (13 houses vacated to date)	<u>23</u>	<u>50</u>
Number of houses awaiting consideration		<u>44</u>
Total number of families from unfit houses re-housed	27	

Housing (cont.)

Rent Act, 1957 - Certificates of Disrepair

During the year 32 applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair. In each case the premises concerned were inspected to confirm the defects referred to in the Notice served by the tenant on the landlord and the necessary authority obtained to notify the landlord (on Form J) of the Council's proposal to issue a Certificate of Disrepair.

The following is a summary of the position with regard to applications on the 31st December, 1958:-

Total number of applications received	75
Undertakings (Form K) received from Landlords	54
Certificates of Disrepair issued	17
Applications for Certificates not approved	2
Applications under consideration	<u>2</u>
Total	<u>75</u>

Certificates of Disrepair cancelled 3

Eradication of Bed Bugs

One house was dealt with for flea infestation. The rooms affected were thoroughly treated with insecticide, and the removal of bedding for steam disinfection was found unnecessary.

Schools

Nineteen inspections and visits by the Public Health Inspectors were made during the year to schools in the Borough, including private schools.

There are twenty-four private schools in the Borough.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the
Factories Act, 1937

- (1) Inspections for Purposes of Provision as to health including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		Occupiers Prose- cuted (6)
		Inspec- tions (4)	Written Notices (5)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	9	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	137	66	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' premises)	10	4	-	-
TOTAL	164	79	2	-

- (2) Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which presecu- tions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Reme- died (4)	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspec- tor (5)	By H.M. Inspec- tor (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	6	6	--	--	--
Overcrowding (S.2)	--	--	--	--	--
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	--	--	--	--	--
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	--	--	--	--	--
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	--	--	--	--	--
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	--	--	--
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	--	1	--
(c) Not separate for sexes	--	--	--	--	--
Other offences (not relating to outwork)	8	8	--	--	--
TOTAL	20	20	--	1	--

Factories (cont.)

(3) Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 11		Prosecutions
	No. of Out-workers in Aug. list required by Sec. 110(1)(e)	No. of cases of defaults in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failing to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Wearing apparel (making, etc cleansing and washing)	2	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	-	-	-	-	-

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

This section of the report deals with matters relating to food including the inspection of food premises, food sampling and other work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors in connection with the supervision of food supplies.

Food Premises

The following table shows the approximate number of premises in the Borough classified under the various trades or businesses, where food is sold, manufactured or stored:-

Bakehouses	9
Bakers and Confectioners	17
Butchers	39
Cafes, Restaurants, Canteens and Kitchens	48
Confectioners	55
Dairies and Milk Distributors	20
Fishmongers (wet and dry)	17
Fried Fish Shops	7
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	39
Grocery and Provision Stores	90
Ice-cream Retailers	127
Public Houses and Off Licences	57
TOTAL	525

Inspection and Supervision of Food (cont.)

Of the preceding premises, 170 are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, as follows:-

Manufacture of Ice-cream	1
Retail sale of Ice-cream	126
Preparation or manufacture for sale of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	43

During the year 852 inspections of food premises were made (for details see page 46).

Milk Supply

The number of milk distributors and dairy premises (other than dairy farms) in the Borough, registered in accordance with the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 - 1954, is as follows:-

Retail Purveyors (with premises in the Borough)	4
" " (from outside the Borough)	8
Milk Receiving Depots	4
Shops from which bottled milk is sold	16

Milk Licences

The following licences to sell graded milk were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949, during the year 1958:-

	<u>Dealers</u>	<u>Supplementary</u>
"Tuberculin Tested"	10	5
"Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised"	-	2
"Pasteurised"	10	6
"Sterilised"	<u>18</u>	<u>6</u>
	38	19
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Milk Sampling

During the year 109 samples of milk were taken from milk distributors, including supplies to local hospitals and schools, and submitted for bacteriological examination.

The following summary gives details of the grades of milk sampled and results of the examinations:-

<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>
"Tuberculin Tested" Channel Island Farm Bottled	4
"Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised"	15
"Pasteurised"	<u>90</u>
	109
	<u> </u>

Milk Sampling (cont.)

Results of Tests

	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
"T.T." Channel Island Farm Bottled	4	-	-	-
"T.T. Pasteurised"	15	-	15	-
"Pasteurised"	90	-	90	-
	109	-	105	-

Note:- Two samples of "T.T." Channel Island Farm Bottled Milk satisfied the required tests but were found to contain a deposit of blood. (See Case No. 2. reported under prosecutions - page 44)

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Slaughterhouses

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough, but at the request of the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, arrangements are made for the inspection of all animals after slaughter at Horton Farm, where a slaughterhouse is in regular use for the supply of meat to Mental Hospitals in the Borough.

The following summary relates to the inspection of animals after slaughter at the above-mentioned slaughterhouse during the year.

Carcases inspected and condemned:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	3	26	61	-	547	-
Number inspected	3	26	61	-	547	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-

Slaughterhouses (cont.)

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	2	-	-	27	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tubercu- losis and Cysticeri	-	7.69%	-	-	5.118%	-
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 - 1954

Four applications for the renewal of licences to slaughter animals under the above Acts were received and considered by the Council. In each case the licence was granted, and the fees amounting to 4/- (four shillings) were forwarded to the Borough Treasurer.

Butchers' Shops

There are thirty-nine butchers' shops in the Borough all of which have been periodically inspected during the year, 104 visits and inspections being made.

Butchers' Shops (cont.)

A refrigerator or other means of cold storage is provided at each shop and all have permanent glass windows as shop fronts.

A standard of cleanliness in butchers' shops has, on the whole, been very satisfactory.

Condemned Meat and Other Foods

The following meat and other foods were inspected at shops and food stores within the Borough and found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Article	lbs	Tins	Packets or Numbers
Bacon	17		
Butter	7		
Butter Beans	130		
Chickens	18 $\frac{3}{4}$		
Chocolate	12		
Coccanut	7		
Fish	595	5	
Frozen Foods			568
Fruit - Tinned		187	
Herbs - Mixed	$\frac{1}{2}$		
Ice-cream			394
Margarine	36		
Meat and Offal	278 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Meat - Tinned		123	
Milk		3	
Milk Powder	28		
Potatoes	112		
Sago	1		
Suet - Shredded	91		
Sugar	28		
Sweets			3
Tea	2		
Vegetables - Tinned		60	

Whenever possible foodstuffs found unfit for human consumption are disposed of for animal feeding (if not diseased) or utilised for other practical purposes to avoid waste.

Bakehouses

Forty inspections and visits were made during the year to nine bakehouses on the register.

At five bakehouses matters were found requiring attention and the following is a summary of the work carried out as a result of verbal or written notices:-

Cleansing of walls and ceilings	7
Repairs to drainage and sanitary accommodation	1
Cleansing or repair of floors	4
Removal of rubbish and cleansing of yard	1
Miscellaneous matters	12

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Sampling

Formal and informal samples have been taken regularly by the Public Health Inspectors as Sampling Officers and forwarded to Mr. D. D. Moir, who is appointed as Public Analyst to the Corporation.

During the year 74 samples were submitted for analysis, and as will be seen in the following summary covered a wide range of commodities:-

	Number of Samples Examined		Reported adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Almond Flavour		1		
Bacon and Egg Pie		2		
Beer		1		
Biscuits		1		
Bread		1		
Calamine Lotion		1		
Chicken Broth		1		
Chicken - Chopped		1		
Chicken - Minced		1		
Choc Roll		1		
Chocolate Roll		2		
Coconut Ice		1		
Cough Linctus		2		
Crab		1		
Double Cream		1		
Dried Fruit		1		
Fish Sticks		1		
Ice-cream	1	11		
Ice Lolly		1		
Jam		1		
Jelly		2		
Lemon Curd		2		
Margarine	1	1		
Marshmallow Creme		1		
Marzipan		1		
Milk	16			
Orange Drink		2		
Peel - Mixed		1		
Savoury Duck		1		
Sausages - Beef	2			
Sausages - Pork	2			
Sherbet		1		
Soup		1		
Steak and Kidney Pie		1		
Steak - Minced		1		
Steak - Stewed		1		
Sugar		1		
Tomatoes Cream		1		
Whisky	1			
TOTAL	23	51	-	-

Prosecutions

During the year legal proceedings were taken in six cases for offences under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, as follows:-

Prosecutions (cont.)

Case No. 1.

A wholesale bakery firm was fined £25 with five guineas costs in respect of the sale at a local provision store of a wrapped sliced loaf of bread which was not of the substance demanded by the purchaser in that it contained a jagged piece of metal.

Case No. 2.

A dairy company was convicted at the local Magistrates' Court in respect of the sale of a bottle of milk which contained blood, a fine of £20 being imposed with costs amounting to seven guineas. The Company appealed to Surrey Quarter Sessions against their conviction by the Epsom Magistrates and after a Hearing which lasted two days, the Appellate Court held that the prosecution had proved their case and had satisfied them that the bottle of milk which had been sold to the purchaser contained blood. The Court also held that the prosecution were correct in their contention that the milk was not of the substance demanded by the purchaser.

The Court however, then considered the defence which had been raised and decided that upon the evidence before them the Company had proved that the presence of blood was an unavoidable consequence of the process of collection and preparation under Section 3 (3) of the Act. The Court also accepted the defence under Section 115 of the Act that this milk had been sold under a warranty and that at the time of sale the Company had no reason to believe that it was otherwise than in accordance with the warranty.

The Appeal was granted and a token order for costs only amounting to ten guineas, was awarded against the Corporation.

Case No. 3.

A local firm of bakers was fined £20 and ordered to pay £5. 5. 0. costs in respect of the sale of a loaf of bread containing rodent excreta, being an offence under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Case No. 4.

A local firm of bakers was fined £7 and ordered to pay £5. 5. 0. costs in respect of the sale of a fruit and malt loaf which contained a nail, being an offence under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Case No. 5.

A local firm of bakers pleaded guilty to an offence under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in respect of the sale of a tea cake containing a metal staple. The firm was fined £10 and ordered to pay £5. 5. 0. costs.

Case No. 6.

A local firm of bakers pleaded guilty to an offence under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in respect of the sale of a loaf of bread containing a mouse's head, the firm being fined £25. and ordered to pay £5. 5. 0. costs.

Ice-cream

Ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 - 1952

At the end of the year 127 premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream in accordance with Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. All retailers obtain their supply of ice-cream from manufacturers outside the Borough, with the exception of one who manufactures it on the premises.

The majority of retailers supply only wrapped or pre-packed ice-cream which is stored in refrigerated cabinets provided by the manufacturers, which ensures a better standard of hygiene, but storage arrangements are constantly under review in the course of inspecting food premises where ice-cream is sold.

Ice-cream Sampling

During the year four samples of ice-cream were taken for chemical examination and found to comply with the required standard.

Eighteen samples of ice-cream, two ice lollies and one fruit lolly were submitted for bacteriological examination. The following table gives a summary of the results of the ice-cream samples:-

1958	Manufacturers.				Retailers only.				Itinerant Dealers				Total
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	
January	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
February	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
March	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
April	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
May	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
August	1	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	8
September	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
November	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	1	1	-	12	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	18

FOOD HYGIENE

The Regulations apply to any place where food is handled or supplied in the course of a food business, whether there is actual sale or not. They apply, broadly speaking, throughout the food and catering trades, and to the supply of food in clubs, schools, residential establishments and staff canteens, also to stalls and vehicles.

The aim of the Regulations is to set a practical standard of food hygiene and centres on three main aspects; the structural condition of the premises, the construction and cleanliness of articles and equipment with which the food may come into contact, and the cleanly practices by food handlers themselves while they are preparing or handling the food.

Food Hygiene (cont.)

The following is a summary of the various types of food premises and number of inspections made, including revisits to inspect work carried out:-

<u>Type of premises</u>	<u>No. of Inspections and Visits</u>
Bakehouses	40
Bakers and Confectioners	23
Butchers	104
Cafes, Canteens and Kitchens	122
Dairies and Milk Shops	19
Fishmongers and Poulterers	41
Fried Fish Shops	15
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	99
Grocery and Provision Stores	174
Ice-cream Manufacturers	5
" " Retailers	26
" " Vehicles	5
Licensed Premises	27
Market Stalls and Food Vehicles	34
Sweets and Sugar Confectionery	14
Visits, Miscellaneous (not included above)	<u>104</u>
TOTAL	<u>852</u>

The majority of traders have shown a readiness to comply with the Regulations and are willing to co-operate in the efforts being made to raise the standard in the handling of food. A substantial amount of structural and cleansing work has been carried out in food shops, cafes and kitchens.

The following matters have been attended to during the year as a result of verbal or written notices:-

Walls and/or ceilings cleansed	46
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	17
Interior paintwork renewed	2
Floors renewed or repaired	15
Lighting or ventilation improved	3
Other structural repairs carried out	4
Sinks installed or renewed	15
Constant hot water supply installed over sinks	13
Drainage improved or repaired	1
New dustbins provided	6
Nuisances abated or other defects remedied	70

Sanitary conveniences and facilities for staff

W.C's. etc., cleansed and/or redecorated	9
Lighting or ventilation improved	5
Wash-hand basins installed	25
Constant hot water supply installed over existing wash-hand basins	27
Soap, Nail Brushes or Towels provided	8
Accommodation provided for clothing	6
First-Aid Materials provided	9

Shops Act, 1950

Ninety-five inspections and visits were made regarding shops hours and conditions of employment of shop assistants. The majority of shops close earlier than required by the general closing hours specified under the Act. Wednesday is recognised as the early closing day for most of the shops in the Borough, but there is a tendency for some shopkeepers, particularly hairdressers, to adopt an alternative half day in order to remain open on Wednesdays.

Conditions of employment of shop assistants were generally satisfactory and only minor matters were found requiring attention.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

In accordance with requirements of the above Act, occupiers of land or buildings are under an obligation to notify the local authority in writing, of the presence of rats or mice in substantial numbers. It is also the duty of every local authority to take such steps as may be necessary to secure, so far as practicable, that their district is kept free from rats and mice. They are empowered to make inspections and enforce owners and occupiers to carry out such operations as may be necessary for this purpose.

Advice and assistance are given to persons who report any such infestation or apply for information as to preventive measures. Such advice is based on methods of destruction recommended by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

One full-time Rodent Operative is employed in the Department and the following is a summary of the work carried out:-

Number of complaints and reports investigated	460
Number of inspections and visits	3,777
Number of premises found infested	536
Number of treatments carried out by the Corporation's Rodent Operative:-	
at private premises	529
at business premises	129
Number of rats known to have been caught and destroyed by:-	
(a) the Corporation's Rodent Operative	794
(b) by employees at Sewage Farm	4

Sewer Rat Control

The treatment of sewers was continued during the year in accordance with requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The work is carried out by the Rodent Operative with assistance of sewer men from the Borough Engineer's Department.

For the purpose of treatment, the Borough is divided into thirteen sections and sewer manholes in each section, with exception of Section No. 11, were test baited followed by poisoning any manholes where evidence of infestation was found. In the case of Section 11, pre-baiting and poisoning was carried out without test-baiting as it was previously known to be infested.

Sewer Rat Control (cont.)

The following is a summary of the work carried out:-

Test Baiting: (10% of manholes in each Section)

Number of manholes test-baited	224
Number of manholes showing "takes"	21

First Treatment

Number of manholes pre-baited and poisoned	21	
Number of manholes (Section No. 11)		
pre-baited and poisoned	44	65

Second Treatment

Number of manholes pre-baited	72
Number of manholes showing "takes"	
and poison-baited	25

Insect Pests

Numerous requests were received for advice and assistance in dealing with various types of household insect pests; flies, moths, furniture beetles, woodworm, etc.

Assistance is also given in the destruction of wasps' nests without charge, and during the year 219 nests were dealt with on report.

School Disinfestation

At the request of the Surrey County Council, the Corporation agreed to carry out the work of disinfestation at school buildings, school canteens and other properties in the Borough owned by the Surrey County Council.

This work has been undertaken since the 1st April, 1950, and the charges are based on the actual cost of labour, plus materials and a reasonable charge for administration.

Mosquito Control

The spraying of ponds and pools in the Wilmerhatch Lane area was carried out as in former years, and in other parts of the Borough. These control measures have largely reduced the nuisance from mosquitoes.

The Clean Air Act, 1956

The provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, which came into operation as from 31st December, 1956, deal with the installation of new furnaces, the height of chimneys, smoke control areas, research and publicity and the making of building byelaws.

The Clean Air Act, 1956 (cont.)

The Council have made a Building Byelaw under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, to require the provision in new buildings of such arrangements for heating or cooking as are calculated to prevent so far as practicable, the emission of smoke.

Mortuary

One hundred and forty-one bodies have been admitted to the mortuary and post-mortems held during the year. The number includes 40 bodies from outside districts, fees amounting to £55. 0. 0. being received for the use of the post-mortem room.

A refrigeration plant with cold store containing a three-tier body rack is installed at the Mortuary.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

This Act provides that no person shall keep a pet shop except under licence granted by the Local Authority in accordance with the provisions of the Act and on payment of a fee not exceeding ten shillings. Two renewal applications were received and licences granted in 1958.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no premises in the Borough which are subject to registration under the provisions of this Act and no samples of rag flock or other fillings were taken during the year.

The Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952, and Regulations, 1953

The Public Health Inspectors as authorised Officers have carried out inspections of heating appliances offered for sale at business premises, but no infringements have been found.

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